

Times. This event is now described in mythic proportions in the local Polish community and throughout the state.

The reasons for Don's induction into the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame, however, go beyond his legendary abilities as a restaurateur and promoter of Polish heritage. He also has a keen ear for the polka and is an expert polka music listener. Don also recently learned to play the stumpf fiddle and he performs at hospitals, nursing homes, and senior sites throughout the year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Don Krzysiak on achieving the Michigan Polka Music industry's highest honor and for his many contributions in safeguarding all aspects of Polish heritage for generations to come. I am confident that Don will continue to warm Polish hearts and satisfy the appetites of people of all backgrounds well into the future.

IN HONOR OF CHESTER J. NOWAK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Chester J. Nowak, United States Army Sergeant, on his years of dedicated military service to our great nation.

Mr. Nowak was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio and is currently residing in Rocky River. He served selflessly for our country in the Korean War, and was in battle in Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe, and Ardennes, known as the Bulge. He served in Company L, the 194th Glider Infantry Regiment with the 17th Airborne Division.

His love and true devotion to America is an inspiration to all. He received the Combat Infantry Badge and also the Glider Badge. He was awarded a Purple Heart after he was wounded in Belgium and was awarded a Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground operations against the enemy.

Originally, the Republic of Korea offered medals to those veterans that served in Korea between June 25, 1950, the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, to July 27, 1953, the date the armistice was signed. In addition, veterans are eligible if they served on the soil of Korea, in waters adjacent, or in the air above Korea. These medals are a symbol of American freedom, patriotism, democracy, and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring a man that has sacrificed for his nation and has served our country in many capacities, Sergeant Chester J. Nowak. Mr. Nowak is an inspiration to all, and our great country is thankful for his services.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING TONY GWYNN
ON ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM BASEBALL

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Madam Speaker, I also rise in support of House Resolution 198 sponsored by Representative SUSAN DAVIS honoring Tony Gwynn for his numerous achievements to baseball and his community.

Tony Gwynn has a career batting average of .338 placing him 15th on the all-time leaders list. This amazing feat puts him in company with great Hall of Fame players like Ty Cobb, Rogers Hornsby and Tris Speaker. In fact, he is second, only to Ted Williams amongst players in the Major League after the Second World War. Gwynn's consistent hitting rewarded him with eight Silver Bats for the eight batting titles he has won. Four of these titles came consecutively in the years of 1994-1997.

Gwynn is a 16-time all-star with 3,127 career hits and is seventeenth on the all-time list behind such greats as Hank Aaron and Stan Musial. Gwynn achieved the 3,000 hit milestone faster than all but two players: Ty Cobb and Nap Lajoie. Gwynn's success has not been limited to offense. His incredible defense has earned him five Golden Glove awards in his career.

Gwynn is among the all-time San Diego Padres careers leaders. He is first in batting average, hits, runs batted in and runs. Throughout his career Gwynn's sportsmanship has placed him on a highly respectable list of players that consistently conduct themselves with great dignity. By staying with the Padres, Gwynn has given his fans a consistent and stable hero.

Gwynn, though, is a hero off the field as well. Despite his reluctance to speak on his numerous community service activities, they continue to emerge as amazing acts of selflessness. Gwynn is the first to help out with local baseball clinics for youngsters. He is the principal force behind the Padres' scholarship program. Gwynn's foundation actively serves the needs of physically and sexually-abused children. Tony and his wife, Alicia, also routinely open their home to troubled youth and have paid for numerous funerals for victims of gang violence. Madam Speaker, I believe Tony Gwynn is fully deserving of the honor of this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on Tuesday, October 2, 2001, the record would reflect that I would have voted:

On Roll 360, HR 169, On Motion to Suspend the Rule and Pass, as Amended, the

Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act, Yea.

On Roll 361, HJ Res 42, On Motion to Suspend the Rule and Pass, as Amended, the measure Memorializing fallen firefighters by lowering the American flag to half-staff in honor of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, Maryland, Yea.

On Roll 362, HR 2904, On Motion to Instruct Conferees, Yea.

I was unable to return to Congress on October 2 due to pressing matters in my district.

**RABBI ISRAEL ZOBERMAN'S
THOUGHTS ON THE SEPTEMBER
11TH TRAGEDIES**

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, people of all faiths and backgrounds all across the nation are still struggling to comprehend the senseless loss of life and destruction of landmarks that occurred on American soil on September 11th. Rabbi Israel Zoberman of the Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, a congregation that draws people from all over the Tidewater area, has sent to me his thoughts on these attacks. Though Rabbi Zoberman has lived and preached in the United States for many years now, he grew up in Israel, and is all too accustomed to living with terrorism as a part of his daily routine. His eloquence might help us all to make sense of these tragedies, and I commend his article to my colleagues' attention.

So much pain, so many tears, God too is weeping for and with America. We are bowed down by heavy losses knowing that a new, unfamiliar burden has been placed upon us with a new kind of evil in a world gone mad. Yet, in our crushing and humbling sorrow we have touched our most tender humanness, reaching higher national oneness.

We knew of the possibility of a large-scale terrorist attack in the United States, but it is a hard reality to absorb. An empire's icons of pride and security, seemingly so well grounded, were toppled and penetrated, changing our outer and inner landscape. Surely the apocalyptic images of doomsday born of diabolic design will be etched in the collective American memory, of a day the world held its breath and a heartbeat was forever lost. There is an insidious insecurity creeping in with such a shock that only time will ease.

The terrifying cloud of dust and ashes with dazed relatives looking for loved ones had a Holocaust resonance to it, and the devastation's wide scope bore a World War Two signature. Terrorism's essence is to disrupt a normal way of life, assailing us physically, psychologically and spiritually. Their target was our very pluralism and inclusiveness by a merciless enemy threatened by our freedoms and global reach, feeling inadequate and powerless in face of the West's superior technology and incomparable standard of living. The great tragedy befalling us ought to bring appreciation for Israel, America's true ally, in its long struggle against Arab and Muslim fundamentalism, acutely suffering during the past year.

The free world with America's irreplaceable leadership has now gained the